

# Incident Name: COVID-19 Jefferson County

Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center

## April 30, 2020 Update

### Incident Summary

- National Emergency declared 3/14/2020
- State Emergency declared 3/13/2020
- County Emergency declared 3/19/2020
- Town of Whitehall Emergency declared 3/19/2020.
- City of Boulder Emergency declared 3/26/2020.
- County Emergency Operations Center and Emergency Operations Plan activated by the Jefferson County office of Disaster and Emergency Services on 3/16/2020.
- County incident being managed under the Unified Command of Joan VanDuynhoven, Public Health Officer, and Doug Dodge, Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator.
- County level daily operational coordination briefings are occurring, in addition to weekly planning meetings. The County Commission has a standing agenda item regarding COVID-19 on their weekly agenda.
- **Montana is in Phase One of Governor Steve Bullock's re-opening plan. No more than 10 people shall gather together in one location, and social distancing directives remain in effect.**

### Incident Update (new items in bold)

1. **Forty-eight Jefferson County residents have been tested for COVID-19. There are forty-six negatives and two positives.**
2. **The Jefferson County Commission is lifting the restricted public access to facilities on Monday May 4<sup>th</sup>; however, certain protective restrictions inside each facility have been established. Please read and follow any posted signs and/or directions from staff.**
3. Documents have been mailed out to restaurants and bars regarding the requirements of re-opening their establishments. They'll need to fill out the re-opening plan and submit it to Megan Bullock, Jefferson County Sanitarian, prior to re-opening on May 4th.
4. The following school districts have voted to continue remote learning for the remainder of the school year:
  - a. Whitehall High School, Whitehall Elementary School, Boulder Elementary School, Cardwell Elementary School, **Basin Elementary School, Clancy Elementary School**
5. The following school districts are scheduled to vote to consider continuing remote learning for the remainder of the school year:
  - a. Jefferson High School: Thursday, 4/30/2020
  - b. Montana City Elementary School: Tuesday, 5/5/2020

6. Governor Steve Bullock encouraged those out in public to wear cloth masks covering their faces.
7. The Jefferson County Commission has passed a resolution restricting public access to County offices and buildings. Those with County business need to call before visiting County offices for further direction from the department they would like to visit. Office phone numbers are available online at [www.jeffersoncounty-mt.gov](http://www.jeffersoncounty-mt.gov). It should be noted that physical protective measures are being taken to protect employees and the public at county facilities. These measures could impact certain functions of county departments and may lead to delays in requested services. The best way to avoid these delays is to utilize the electronic capabilities from each department.
8. There is a US Chamber of Commerce small business grant opportunity for up to \$5000. The link below will get you to the website and application process. <https://savesmallbusiness.com/>

\*\*\*The past few weeks have been stressful for many families, healthcare providers, business owners and others. For mental health concerns, the SAMHSA no-cost disaster distress line can be accessed via 800-985-5990; by texting "talkwithus" to 66746 or visiting [disasterdistress.samhsa.gov](https://disasterdistress.samhsa.gov)\*\*\*

## Incident Closures/Restrictions

- Jefferson County is restricting access to county facilities, please call ahead prior to visiting. The Clerk and Recorder's building is now open due to the upcoming elections.
- Clancy, Montana City and Boulder libraries have re-established curbside services.

## Incident Contacts

**COVID-19 hotline: 1-888-333-0461**

COVID-19 website: <https://covid19.mt.gov/>

COVID-19 email: [covid19info@mt.gov](mailto:covid19info@mt.gov)

Jefferson County Public Health: 406-225-4007

Jefferson County Disaster and Emergency Services: 406-225-4035